A DECLARATION OF THE Lords and Commons IN PARLIAMENT.

With the Additionall Reasons, last presented to his Majestie.

Sabbathi 12. *Martii.* 1641.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, That the Declaration, with the Additionall Reasons last presented to His Majesty, shall bee forthwith Printed and published.

Io. Browne, Cleric. Parl.

H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Printed at London for *E. C.*

1642.

May it please your Majestie,

ALthough the Expressions in your Majesties Message of the second of this instant March, do give just cause of sorrow to us your faithfull Subjects, the Lords & Commons in Parliament, yet it is not without some mixture of confidence and hope, considering they proceeded from the mis-apprehension of our Actions and Intentions, which having no ground of Truth or Reality; may by your Majesties Iustice & Wisdom be removed when your Majestie shalbe fully informed, that these fears & jealousies of ours, which your Majestie thinks to be causelesse, and without any just ground, do necessarily and clearly arise from those dangers and distempers, into which the mischievous & evill Counsels about you have brought this King-dom, and that the other fears and jealousies, by which your favour, your Royall Presence, & confidence have been withdrawn from your Parliament, have no foundation or subsistance in any action, intention, or miscarriage of ours, but are meerly grounded upon the falshood and malice of those, who, for the supporting and fomenting their own wicked designes against the Religion and Peace of the Kingdom, do seek to deprive your Majestie of the Strength and Affection of your People, them of your Grace and Protection, and thereby to subject both your Royall Person, and the whole Kingdom to ruine and destruction.

To satisfie your Majesties judgement & Conscience in both these points, we desire to make a cleare and free Declaration of the causes of our fears and jealousies, which we offer to your Majestie, in these particulars:

1. *That the designe of altering Religion in this, and in your other Kingdoms, hath been potently carried on by those in greatest Authority about you for divers yeers together: the Queens Agent at* Rome, *& the Popes Agent or Nuncio here, are not onely evidences of this designe, but have been great Actors in it.*

2. *That the War with* Scotland *was procured to make way for this intent, and chiefly invited and fomented by the Papists, and others popishly affected, whereof we have many evidences, especially their free and generall contribution to it.*

3. *That the Rebellion in* Ireland *was framed and contrived here in* England, *and that the English Papists should have risen about the same time, we have severall testimonies, & advertisements from* Ireland; *and that it is a common speech amongst the Rebels, wherewith conci-*

other Evidences, Observations of the suspicious meetings and consultations, the insolencies and seditious carriage of those of that Religion in divers parts of this Kingdom, about the time of the breaking out of the Irish Rebellion; The deposition of O Connelly, *the Information of* M Cole *Minister, the Letter of* Trestram Whitcombe, *the deposition of* Thomas Grant, *and many others which we may produce, do all agree in this. The publike Declaration of the Lords, Gentlemen and others of the Pale, that they would joyn with the Rebels, whom they call the Irish Army, or any others, to recover unto His Majestie His Royall Prerogative, wrested from him by the Puritan faction in the Houses of Parliament in* England, *and to maintain the same against all others, as also to maintain Episcopall Iurisdiction, and the lawfulnesse thereof; these two being the quarrels, upon which His Majesties late Army in the North should have been incensed against us.*

The great cause we have to doubt that that late design stiled, *The Queens pious intention*, was for the alteration of Religion in this Kingdom; for successe whereof, the Popes Nuncio, the Count *Rosetti* injoyned Fasting & Praying to be observed every Week by the English Papists; which appeared to us by one of the Originall Letters, directed by him to a Priest in *Lancashire*.

The boldnesse of the *Irish* Rebells, in affirming they do nothing, but by Authority from the King; That they call themselves the Queens Army: That the prey or booty which they take from the *English*, they mark with the Queens Mark; That their purpose was to come to *England*, after they had done in *Ireland*; and sundry other things of this kinde, proved by *O Connelli*, and divers others, especially in the fore-mentioned Letter from *Trestram Whitecombe*, the Major of *Kinsale*, to his Brother *Benjamin Whitecome*, wherein there is this passage. That many other strange speeches they utter, about Religion and our Court of *England*, which he dares not commit to paper.

The manifold attempts to provoke Your Majesties late Army, and the Army of the *Scots*, and to raise a faction in the City of *London*, and other parts of the Kingdom: That those who have been Actors in those businesses, have had their dependance, their countenance, and encouragement from the Court; Witnesse the Treason whereof Master *Iermyn* and others stand accused, who was transported beyond Sea by Warrant, under Your Majesties Hand, after Your Majesty had given Assurance to Your Parliament, that Your Majesty had laid a strict command upon all your Servants, that none of them should depart from Court: And that dangerous Petition, deliverd to Captain *Legg* by your Majesties

own Hand, accompanied with a Direction, Signed with C. R.

The falſe and ſcandalous accuſation againſt the Lord *Kimbalton*, and the five Members of the Houſe of Commons, tendred to the Parliament by your Majeſties owne Command, endeavoured to be juſtified in the City, by your owne preſence and perſwaſion, and to be put in execution upon their perſons, by your Majeſties demand of them in the Houſe of Commons, in ſo terrible and violent a manner, as far exceeded all former breaches of Priviledges of Parliament, acted by your Majeſty, or any of your Predeceſſors: And whatſoever your own intentions were, divers bloody and deſperate perſons which attended your Majeſty, diſcovered their affections and reſolutions to have Maſſacred and deſtroied the Members of that Houſe, if the abſence of thoſe perſons accuſed had not, by Gods providence, ſtopt the giving of that word which they expected, for the ſetting them upon that barbarous and bloody act: The Liſting of ſo many Officers, Souldiers, and others, putting them into pay, and under command of Colonells, feaſting and carreſſing them in an unuſuall manner, at *White-hall*, thereby maintaining them in the violent aſſaults, and other injuries which they offered to divers of your Subjects, comming that way in a lawfull and peaceable manner: the carrying them out of Town; after which they were told by the Lord *Digby*, that the King removed on purpoſe, that they might not be trampled in the durt: And keeping them ſo long in pay, endeavouring to ingage the Gentlemen of the Innes of Court, in the ſame courſe: The plotting and deſigning of a perpetuall Guard about your Majeſty: The labouring to infuſe into your Majeſties Subjects an evil opinion of the Parliament, thorow the whole Kingdome, and other Symptomes of a diſpoſition of rayſing Arms and dividing your people by a Civill Warre; in which combuſtion, *Ireland* muſt needs be loſt, and this Kingdome miſerably waſted and conſumed, if not wholy ruined and deſtroyed.

That after a vote had paſſed in the Houſe of Commons, declaring, that the Lord *Digby* had appeared in a warlike manner at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, to the terrour and fright of your Majeſties good Subjects, and diſturbance of the publike peace of the Kingdome; and that therefore the Lords ſhould bee moved to require his attendance, he ſhould, nevertheleſſe, bee of that credit with your Majeſty, as to be ſent away by your owne Warrant to Sir *John Pennington*, to Land him beyond the Sea;

from

from whence he vented his owne Traytorous conceptions. That your Majesty should declare your selfe, and retire to a place of strength in this Kingdome, as if your Majesty could not be safe among your people: And with all tooke that transcendent boldnes to write to the Queen, offering to entertain correspondency with her Matie by cyphers, intimating some service which he might do in those Parts, for which, he desired your Majesties instructions, whereby in probability, he intended the procuring of some forraigne force to strengthen your Majesty, in that condition into which he would have brought you: Which false and malicious counsell & advice, we have great cause to doubt, made too deepe an impression in your Majesty, considering the course you are pleased to take, of absenting your self from your Parliament, and carrying the Prince with you, which seems to expresse a purpose in your Majesty, to keep your selfe in a readinesse for the acting of it.

The manifold advertisements which we have had from Rome, Venice, Paris, and other parts, that they still expect that your Majesty has some great designe in hand, for the altering of Religion, the breaking the neck of your Parliament: That you will yet finde meanes to compasse that designe, that the Popes Nuncio hath sollicited the Kings of France and Spaine to lend your Majesty foure thousand men a piece to helpe to maintaine your Royalty against the Parliament: and this forrain force as it is the most pernicious and malignant designe of all the rest, so we hope it is and shall alwaies be farthest from your Majesties thoughts, because no man can beleeve you will give up your people and Kingdome to be spoiled by strangers, if you did not likewise intend to change both your owne profession in Religion, and the publick profession of the Kingdome, so you might still be more assured of those forraine States of the Papish religion, for your future support and defence.

These are some of the grounds of our feares and jealousies which made us so earnestly to implore your royall authority and protection for our defence and security, in all the waies of humility and submission, which being denied by your Majesty seduced by evill counsell, we doe with sorrow for the great and inavoidable misery and danger, which thereby is like to fall upon your owne person, and your Kingdomes, apply our selves to the use or that power for the security and defence of both, which by the fundamentall Lawes and Constitutions of this Kingdome resides in us, yet still resolving to keepe our selves within

the bounds of faithfulnesse and allegeance to your sacred Person and your Crown, so as to the second sort of jealousies and feares of us, expreſt by your Majesty, we shall give a shorter, but as true, and as faithfull an answer.

7. Whereas your Majesty is pleased to say that for your residence neere the Parliament, you wish it might bee so safe and honourable, that you had no cause to absent your selfe from Whitehall: This we take as the greatest breach of priviledge of Parliament that can be offered; as the heaviest misery to your selfe, and imputation upon us that can be imagined, and the most mischievous effect of evill counsells; it roots up the strongest foundation of the safety and honour which your Crowne affords; It seems as much as may be to cast upon the Parliament such a charge, as is inconsistent with the nature of that great Counsell, being the body whereof your Majesty is the head; it strikes at the very being both of King and Parliament, depriving your Majesty in your owne apprehension of their fidelity, and them of your protection, which are the mutuall bands and supports of Government and Subjection.

We have according to your Majesties desire, laid our hands upon our hearts, we have askt our selves in the strickest examination of our consciences; we have searcht our affections, our thoughts, considered our actions, & we find none that can give your Majesty any just occasion to absent your self from Whitehall, and the Parliament; but that you may with more honour and safety, continue there then in any other place.

Your Majesty layes a generall tax upon us; If you will bee graciously pleased to let us know the particulars, wee shall give a cleere and satisfactory answer: But what hope can wee have of ever giving your Majesty satisfaction, when those particulars which you have beene made beleeve were true, yet being produced and made knowne to us, appeared to be false? and your Majesty notwithstanding, will neither punish, nor produce the authors, but goe on to contract new jealousies and feares, upon generall and uncertaine grounds, affording us no meanes or possibility of particular answer to the cleering of our selves: For proofe whereof, we beseech your Majesty to consider these instances.

The Speeches alleadged to be spoken in a meeting of divers Members of both Houses at Kensington, concerning a purpose of restraining the Queene and Prince, which after it was denied,

ed, and disavowed; yet your Majesty refused to name the Authors, though humbly desired by both Houses.

The report of Articles framed against the Queens Majesty, given but by some of noe relation to the Court; but when it was publikely and constantly disclaimed, the credit seemed to be withdrawne from it; but the Authors being kept safe, will alwaies be ready for exploits of the same kinde, wherewith your Majesty, and the Queene will be often troubled, if this course be taken to cherish and secure them in such wicked and malicious slanders.

The heavy charge and accusation of the Lord *Kimbolton*, and the five Members of the House of Commons, who refused no tryall or examination, which might stand with the Priviledge of Parliament; yet no Authors, no witnesses produced, against whom they may have reparation for the great injury and infamy cast upon them, notwithstanding three severall Petitions of both Houses, and the authority of two Acts of Parliament, vouched in the last of those Petitions.

We beseech your Majesty to consider in what state you are, how easie, and safe a way you have to happinesse, honour, greatnesse, plenty and security; if you will joyn with the Parliament, and your faithfull Subjects in defence of the Religion, and publike good of the Kingdome: This is all we expect from you, and for this we shall returne to you, our lives, fortunes, and uttermost endeavours to support your Majesty, your just Soveraignty and power over us, but it is not words that can secure us in these our humble desires, we cannot but too well, and sorrowfully remember what gracious Messages wee had from you this Summer, when with your privity, the bringing up the Army was in agitation; we cannot but with the like affections recall to our minds, how not two dayes before you gave directions for the above mentioned acculation, and your owne comming to the Commons House, that House received from your Majesty a gracious message, that you would alwaies have care of their priviledges, as of your owne Prerogative, of the safety of their persons, as of your owne children: That which wee expect, which will give us assurance, that you have no thought but of peace and justice to your People must bee some reall effect of your goodnesse to them in granting those things, which the present necessity of the Kingdome, do inforce us to desire: And in the first place, that your Majestie will be

gratiously pleased to put frō you, those wicked and mischievous Counsellors, which have caused all these dangers & distractions, and to continue your own Residence, & the Princes neer *London*, and the Parliament, which we hope will be a happy beginning of contentment, and confidence betwixt your Majesty, & your People, and be followed with many succeeding blessings of Honour and Greatnesse to your Majesty, and of security and prosperity to them.

The Additionall Reasons

THe Lords and Commons have commanded us to present unto your Majesty this further Addition to their former Declaration.

That your Majesties returne, and continuance neer the Parliament, is a matter in their apprehension of so great necessity and importance towards the preservation of your Royall Person and your Kingdomes that they cannot thinke they have discharged their duties in the single expression of their desire, unlesse they adde some further Reasons to backe it with.

I. Your Majesties absence will cause men to beleeve, that it is out of designe to discourage the undertakers, and hinder the other Provisions for raising money for defence of Ireland.

II. It will very much hearten the Rebels there, and disaffected persons in this Kingdome, as being an evidence, and effect of the jealousie and division betwixt your Majesty, and your people.

III. That it will much weaken and withdraw the affections of the Subject from your Majesty, without which a Prince is deprived of his chiefest strength and lustre, and left naked to the greatest dangers and miseries, that can be imagined.

IIII. That it will invite and encourage the enemies of our Religion and the State, in forraigne parts, to the attempting and acting of their evill designes and intentions towards us.

V. That it causeth a great interruption in the proceedings of Parliament.

These considerations threaten so great danger to your Majesties Person, and to all your Dominions, that as your Majesties great Counsell, they hold it necessary to represent to You, this their faithfull Advice, that so whatsoever followeth, they may be excused before God and Man.

FINIS

Causes of ~~fences~~ & Jealousies of [illegible] sorts: the first a p. 2. ad. 6. the second sort a p. 6. ad finem [illegible]